

the

KALIFORNSKI

Since 1979

NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226, Watsonville, California 95077

No. 121 July 1989

(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

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Contact at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, California 95076

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SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS

YACO officers and members wish to extend their congratulations to the students who received our scholarships on June 7, 1989. \$400.00 was awarded to Steven Derpich, son of Mr. & Mrs. Peter Derpich; \$400.00 was awarded to Theresa Ivancovich, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George Ivancovich; \$300.00 to Craig Dobler, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ken Dobler; and \$200.00 to Michael Butier, son of Mr. Mike Butier. All the students were from Watsonville High School as there were no applications received from Aptos High School. The committee reviewing the applications were Ann Backovich, John Basor, Naida Nicholas and Chair Ann Soldo. A letter of congratulations was presented to each student on June 7 at the Awards Assembly. The money will be sent to the students when our club receives a copy of their registration at a college or university. The criteria for the scholarship was according to their academic achievement. Our best wishes to each of these young men and woman in their future educational endeavors.

COMMITTEES —

John Basor, Publicity	724-2169
Jo Puhera, Sunshine	724-8930
Ann Cernokus, Decoration	724-5179
Mary Basich, Bake Sale	724-3637
Ella Korach, Dessert	724-5532
Naida Nicholas, Dessert	724-9211
Nick Miloslavich, Biographies	462-2532
Zarko Radich, Set-up	722-5182

YACO SCHOLARSHIP BAKE SALE REPORT

The May 13th YACO Scholarship Bake Sale was once again a great success. Thanks to the effort of many, we have \$834 up to now. Additional donations may be sent to YACO SCHOLARSHIP, c/o Mary Basich, 1907 East Lake, Watsonville, CA 95076.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all who made the sale an outstanding success. My thanks to the following:

Telephone committee: Lena Derpich, Frannie Colendich, Ann Soldo, Slavica Zelac, Stella Lucich, Jo Puhera, Mary Lipanovich, Geri Heebner and Nevenka Radich.

My thanks to the ones who were there to sell: Ann Soldo, Lena Derpich, Kay Butier, Frances Basich and Nevenka Radich.

And my thanks also to Mr. & Mrs. Andy Soldo for radio announcements, Zarko Radich for signs, Fairway Market for allowing us to use their entryway.

In addition, to our members who participated by donating baked goods and who contributed financially, please accept my sincere thanks — for making this Bake Sale GREAT!

I am so very happy and so very thankful to all of you for your help and support.

Thanks again so very much.

Mary Basich, Scholarship Bake Sale Chairperson

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We have been receiving inquiries about advertising in the KALIFORNSKI, so here are the ad sizes and rates.

However

**YACO MEMBERS
PLEASE READ
THIS NOTICE —**

Over the past few months some of our advertisers have dropped out. Almost everyone said it was because they could find no direct return on the dollars they spent advertising with us. Some had been with the KALIFORNSKI for years and NEVER ONCE heard anyone say they came to our advertisers because of any response to the advertising. It is a fact of business life that advertising without return is like throwing money away. Yet I know YACO members who have told ME they did business with someone because of an ad in KALIFORNSKI. DON'T TELL ME — TELL OUR ADVERTISERS! The advertising helps pay for your KALIFORNSKI! So please let the advertisers know or there may not be a KALIFORNSKI some day in the future.

1/6 PAGE (3-5/8" x 3 1/4"):

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FULL PAGE (7 1/2" x 10"):

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FLYER INSERT SHEET:

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HALF PAGE (7 1/2" x 4 3/4"):

1 - 3 months	\$25.00 ea. mo.
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1 year	\$200.00 total

QUARTER PAGE (3-5/8" x 4 3/4"):

1 - 3 months	\$15.00 ea. mo.
6 months	\$75.00 total
1 year	\$130.00 total

Potpourri

BABE BRAUTOVICH HILL

Good Thoughts and Positive Energies go out to Tony Antunovich, Evelyn Gospodnetich and Bill Gospodnetich who I understand is recuperating nicely Our June meeting was a very positive meeting. Ann Soldo will take on the chairmanship of the Scholastic Achievement Awards again next year. Many thanks, Ann. Marilyn Zaknich will chair a committee to look into the future State status of the organization. Thank you, Marilyn . . . John Basor showed a couple of films on Yugoslavia. We had a little video problem, but you did a great job, John, for what you had to work with. Thanks a million, John I have to talk about the July Picnic. We will be calling some of you to assist at the picnic. . . . We will also be needing someone to help sell our "Opportunity Tickets." The winner will receive a gift certificate of travel from Steve Knego of Adriatic Travel in Watsonville (round trip for one to Yugoslavia or \$500 cash) and the odds are great! So please buy your ticket at the picnic or call me I talked to Frank Ostoja last week and all is A-OK. So come one, come all and bring a friend Familiar Faces: M. Basich, E. Korach, M. Zaknich, M. Gizdich, M/M Soldo, M/M Colendich, M/M Zadravec, M/M Lawrence, R. Polovina, N. Nicholas, T. Beaudry and children Rosa and Daniel, M/M Osorio, M/M J. Selak, M/M Zalac, M/M Radich and children Sasha, Mis and Bryan, L. Derpich, Nina Matulich, John Basor and Jelka Bratoš. Our special speaker was Geraldine Shelly. She spoke on senior housing Now, about the bus to Ripon - I originally spoke to a local business and was quoted one price in February. Then, when I called in May to confirm, the price had doubled! So I called my "Ace-in-the-hole" Shirley Hamblin, she got another company

called A-1 Chartered Limousine Service and that was really great. There were thirteen of us who went by bus, plus John Basor and Jelka Bratoš who drove up. A good time was had by Stella Lucich, Katherine Zar, Jo Puhera, Tom and Vera Gugale, Ann Cernokus, Marilyn and Dragoslav Georgevich, Cecil and Shirley Hamblin, Theresa Beaudry and of course, Ron and me. The food was great and plentiful; the company was fantastic. John Basor won ½-case of Wesson Oil; songs were sung by Niksha Padovan and Dragoslav Georgevich . . . If you are the Godchild of Emil J. Carney from Omaha, Nebraska, please call me. I have some information for you. (724-1284) . . . Here are some names that might be familiar to you: Merlin and Geraldine Shipec, Turlock; Carmen and Nick Tusup, Turlock; Carolyn and Dennis Oblak, Tracy; Joyce and Dave Middleton, Tracy; Steve and Berna Meharovich, Stockton; Loretta and John Stanisich, San Leandro; Nancy and John Pozar, Stockton; Radmila Rakich, Stockton; Mike and Alice Segely, Sonoma; Rudy and Marge Novakovich, Modesto; Lucy Arbanasin (she'll be 100 years old 8/5/89); Tony Jacovich, Stockton; Lee and John Sorich, Lodi; John and Jennie Vidolich, Stockton; Ched Kolak, Ripon; Floyd and Barbara Due, Escalon; Mathew and Irene Bakich, Porterville; Ann McFall; Kate Bronzan Smalley; John Sekula Dano Porobich; Alice Edich, Stockton. And our hostess, Sophia Marich.

Toodle . . . ooo. See you at the July Picnic!

DOBRO DOŠLI:

Paul and Gina Dragovan, Santa Cruz, Ca.

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goes out to the JULY CELEBRANTS:

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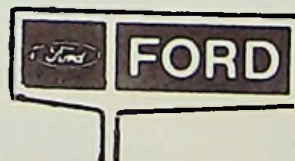
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The Colendiches

Dear Members of YACO,
Thank you all for the
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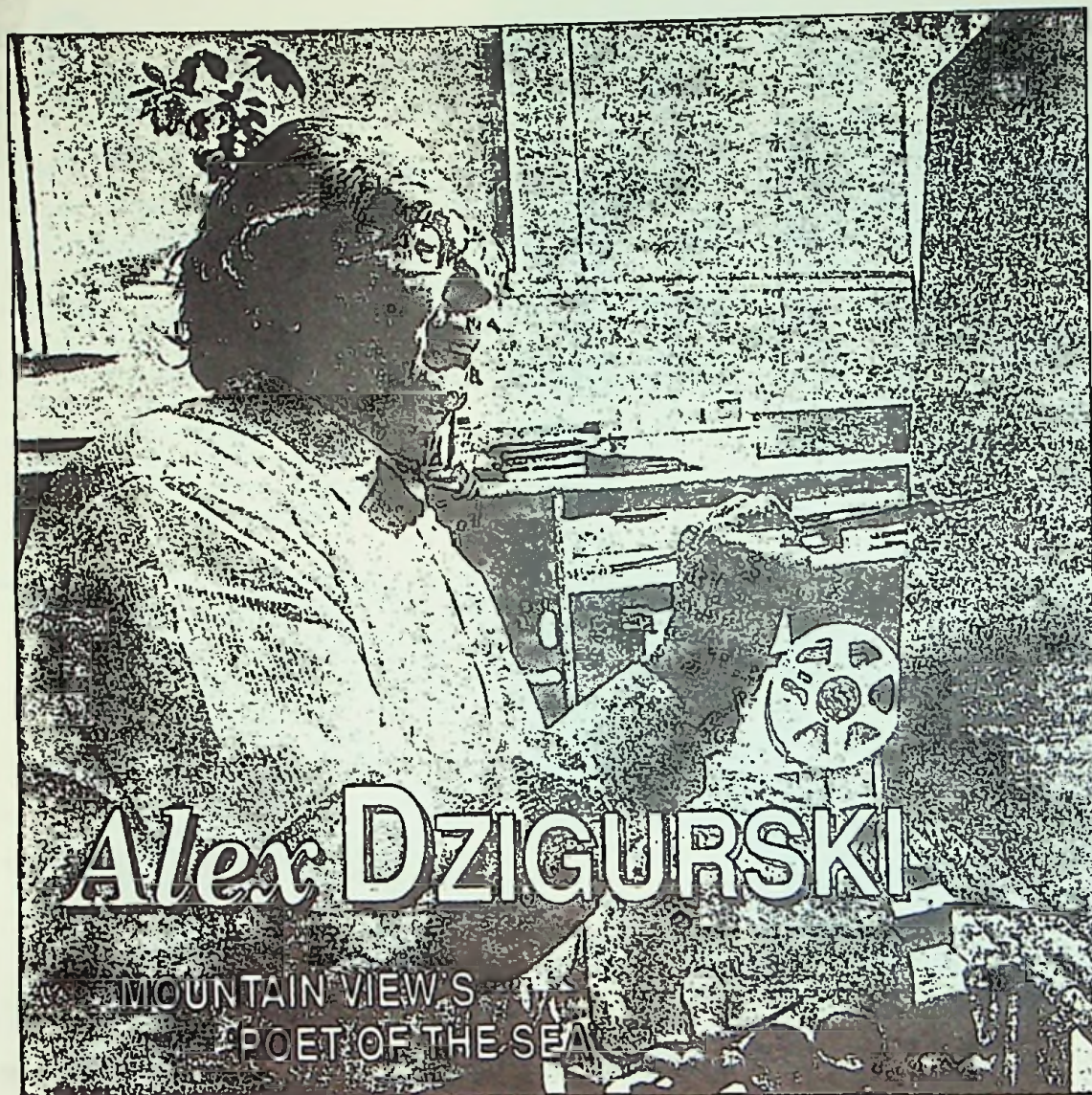
Our family truly appreciates
your thoughtfulness. Dad & Mom
both loved the club very much!

Love,
Yeri



In response to the above picture of the Hapsburgs being in the June issue, the following additional information was sent to us by Nikola Radovich of Carmel. We thank him for sharing it with us.

FRANCE JOSEPH (1830 - 1916) seated in the center. Austro-Hungarian Emperor; king of Hungary, a dual empire. Besides Austrians and Hungarians in most of the territory lived Slavs, Poles, Czechs and today's Yugoslavs. France Joseph's wife, the Empress ELIZABETH (1854-1898) is not in this picture. She died in an accident prior to the date the picture was taken. France Joseph's son, Prince RUDOLPH is also not in the above picture. He died in an "accident" Jan. 3, 1889, referred to as the mystery of Meyerling. It is now recognized that he committed suicide on this date with his beloved VECHEA, a Bohemian Baroness. Before killing himself and her, he sent a telegram to the Pope in Rome asking him to cancel the marriage approval with his fiancée, an Austrian his father wanted him to marry. (This information came from the Empress Zita, in exile in 1989, before she died. She had kept this family secret always. For more details see the "Paris Match," March 30, 1989.) FRANCE FERDINAND (1863-1914) is in the picture to the left behind France Joseph, and his wife Countess SOPHIE CHOTEX stands next to him in the picture. They were both assassinated in Sarajevo June 28, 1914, the spark starting the First World War. The last emperor, CARLO HAPSBURG (1887-1922) is to the right behind France Joseph. He abdicated after W.W.I. His wife, ZITA (1892-1989) was former princess of Bourbon-Parma, related to several European royal families. She never abdicated and she contacted King George of England to negotiate a rapid truce with the Allies. Her son OTTO is now living in Saxony, Germany, and is a member of the European Common Market.



A Amer Pain

— photos by Ellen Bann

Alex DZIGURSKI

MOUNTAIN VIEW'S
POET OF THE SEA

This article was brought to my place of business by one of our readers at a time I was either gone or too busy to notice who dropped it off. So I must apologize for not knowing who to thank for sharing this with us. Whoever — "THANKS."

(— Dale)

The article was printed in the Palo Alto area's paper, Times Tribune / Peninsula News for May 7th, 1989.

Master basics, then learn to play

Study the words to "America the Beautiful" and you'll find the inspiration for Mountain View artist Alex Dzigurski's landscape paintings — lots of spacious skies, purple mountain majesties and fruited plains, painted with broad brushstrokes of bold but harmonious color.

The seascapes — some as large as 6-by-9 feet — are grand gestures, capturing America's craggy coastline at all times of the day, from dawn mist to flaming sunset. The seascapes glow with light, perhaps reflected off a beach, waves at the horizon line or gathering clouds.

And then there's the Dzigurski trademark: translucent blue-green water just below the foaming crest of each wave.

Calling Dzigurski "America's finest painter of the sea," the Franklin Mint Gallery of American Art commissioned him to do a painting as part of a limited edition Bicentennial Portfolio issued in 1976. Inspired by "America the Beautiful,"

Dzigurski painted "From Sea to Shining Sea," a 36-by-48-inch oil of the American coastline described by a Dzigurski biographer as being a "pictorial illumination of eternal proportions."

Dzigurski says he begins his work at the easel every morning with a clean palate. He plays classical music while he paints, but he admits to a fondness for country/western and "oompah pah pah."

Asked if he favors certain colors, Dzigurski responds, "I use them all," including four shades of blue and four shades of green that he blends to make his translucent seas.

Dzigurski's advice to young artists: "Study art, not just painting. You can't be a specialist until you have basic training. Then you can play at any game."

"The greatest example was Picasso. He was well-trained and then he played like crazy."

— By Leanne McLaughlin

II- merican nter

of the Times Tribune.



The studio in Alex Dzigurski's Mountain View home is full of American vistas.

By Leanne McLaughlin
Times Tribune staff

Alex Dzigurski started his love affair with America 40 years ago when he came to the United States as a 38-year-old Yugoslavian immigrant aboard the "liberty ship" *Marine Jumper*.

He spoke six languages but no English. He was penniless but possessed something more valuable than money: the ability to transform an empty canvas into a work of art.

Not only was the ocean Dzigurski's pathway to America, it also was his pathway to eventual fame as an American painter some critics have called "the poet of the sea."

Dzigurski, 78, of Mountain View, has been painting for 65 years. "I have discipline," he says, explaining why he continues to work at his easel five or six days a week, 6 to 10 hours a day.

"I'm not a moody painter. I love my work. It's my whole life."

That life has included hardships and acclaim.

The hardships include surviving World War II in Europe, escaping from Communist-held Yugoslavia to Italy in 1945 and starting a new life in America in 1949.

The acclaim includes having his traditional oil paintings of American seascapes and landscapes included in the collections of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Ford Museum in Detroit, the Oklahoma City Museum of Fine Arts and the Naval Academy Museum in Annapolis. Private collectors who have purchased his work include Nelson Rockefeller, Henry Ford II and many Peninsulans, including David Packard, who once commissioned Dzigurski to do a painting of the Packard's Big Sur property. Dzigurski now commands \$1,500 to \$50,000 per painting.

Born in 1911 in Stari Becej, Yugoslavia, Dzigurski says he was always doodling as a child. "My father wasn't happy I was drawing instead of doing chores," Dzigurski recalls. "But later on he was proud of my art."

After graduating from the Belgrade School of Art in 1929 and serving two years in the King's Navy, Dzigurski entered the Art Academy in Munich. He graduated in 1937 with professor's credentials. For the next four years, he restored icons and murals for the Serbian Orthodox Church in Yugoslavia.

"It was good pay and they were big jobs, but then the war came," Dzigurski says.

Even when World War II ended, times were hard. The Communists controlled his homeland, and Dzigurski decided it was time to leave. In 1945, he boarded a train with his first wife, Lenka, and 12-year-old daughter, Jelena.

"I was dressed in boots and glasses and I looked very official," Dzigurski recalls. Instead of sitting down as the train neared the Yugoslavian border, Dzigurski stood behind the official checking documents. "He looked me over and saluted. I saluted back."

Thus was the family allowed to enter Italy, where Dzigurski studied the Renaissance masters, painted and exhibited until the Serbian church paid for his family's passage to America in 1949 aboard the "liberty ship."

Although he continued to do ecclesiastical art for Serbian churches in the United States, Dzigurski became more and more interested in painting the scenic vistas of his new home.

"I bought my first car in 1950 and that made me more mobile," Dzigurski says. He made his first trip to California in 1952 and spent two months painting the coastline from Oregon to San Diego in both good weather and bad.

"Even now when there's a good storm, I go out and paint," Dzigurski says. "You have to refresh your artistic memory."

Dzigurski settled in the Bay Area in 1963 and over the years owned galleries in Palo Alto, San Mateo, Beverly Hills and Carmel.

He taught regular art classes in the 1960s "but they disturbed my freedom."

A short time after Dzigurski's wife, Lenka, died following a short illness, nurse Dorothy Dravis from the Veteran's Hospital stopped by Dzigurski's Palo Alto art studio to buy a picture frame.

"It was fate," she recalls now. "I was in my uniform and he told me how much he admired the nurses who had cared for his wife."

They struck up a friendship, eventually married and had one son, Alexander, now a student at the American Academy of Art in Chicago. They moved to Mountain View in 1970 after Atherton officials wouldn't allow Dzigurski to build a studio on his property there.

The Mountain View home is crammed with art. There are huge Dzigurski seascapes on the walls along with family portraits, realistic still lifes by Dorothy Dzigurski and works by other artists the couple admires.

In the back of the house is a spacious and sunny studio, which also houses the artist's photographic, video and stereo equipment, a formal dining table to serve guests tea and an eclectic library of art books, ranging from Courrier and Ives to Russian masterpieces.

There also are mementos from a tribute dinner Dzigurski's family and friends gave in March at the Hotel Sofitel. Helping honor Dzigurski's 40 years as an American artist were many of his collectors, including Rear Admiral Edward C. Waller, a commander at Moffett Field Naval Air Station. Among those sending letters of commendation were Gov. George Deukmejian, U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson, Assemblyman Byron Sher, state Sen. Becky Morgan and Rep. Tom Campbell, whose mother owns a Dzigurski seascape.

Dzigurski admits the family hoodwinked him for two years while they planned the surprise party. "Where was I during that whole time?" he muses. "Must have been painting."

ROMAN EMPERORS OF ILLYRIAN ORIGIN

After long and careful preparation, the Yugoslav Post Office is issuing a set of four stamps entitled "Museum Exhibits — Roman Emperors of Illyrian Origin as Portrayed on Coins."

- 2.00 dinar stamp DECIUS TRAIANUS (CAIVS MESSIVS QVINTVS DECIVS TRAIANVS)
- 3.40 dinar stamp AURELIANUS (LVCIVS DOMITIVS AVRELIVS)
- 4.90 dinar stamp PROBUS (MARCVS AVRELIVS PROBVS)
- 10.00 dinar stamp DIOCLETIAN (CAIVS AVRELIVS VALERIVS DIOCLETIANVS)

At the turn of the 1st century B.C., the Romans occupied and established their government over the western part of the Balkan Peninsula, which was then inhabited by Illyrian tribes. The conquest and Romanization of the Balkans continued over a long period of time, but by the second half of the 3rd century A.D. the Illyrian element was widely represented in the political and military structures of the Roman Empire. Economic decline, political crisis and the frequent incursions of barbarian tribes from across the Danube continually sapped the strength of the Empire, ultimately leading to its collapse. Soldier emperors of Illyrian origin appeared on the historical scene. In 269 A.D., the Goth Army was defeated by Claudius the Goth near Naissus (today's Niš). Emperor Aurelian's victories in Asia Minor and Gaul led to the reunification and temporary consolidation of the crumbling Empire. Emperor Probus also waged several successful wars and contributed to the economic recovery of the Empire. Emperor Diocletian carried out a series of important reforms. It is due to the exploits and efforts of these emperors that the Roman Empire was saved from ruin. The list of Roman emperors of Illyrian origin does not end with Diocletian. Constantine the Great, Valence, Valentinian and others were natives of Illyria.

The stamps bear the portraits of the following Roman emperors:

DECIUS TRAIANUS, emperor from 249 to 251, born in Lower Pannonia, the first of



a long line of Roman-Illyrian emperors. Large-scale persecution of Christians was carried out in his reign. His portrait is in the characteristic manner of the Roman classical — realist style.

Denomination: Antoninianus, minted at the Imperial Mint in Rome.

AURELIAN, emperor from 270 to 275, born in the vicinity of Sirmium (Sremska Mitrovica). An experienced and able commander, Aurelian won several important victories during his comparatively short reign. His military successes in Asia Minor and Gaul enabled him to regain these two regions which had previously seceded from the Roman Empire. In 274 A.D. Aurelian carried out a monetary reform which renewed confidence in Roman money. The Emperor's portrait is done in the standard manner of representation typical of late antiquity. Denomination: Antoninianus minted at Siscia (Sisak).

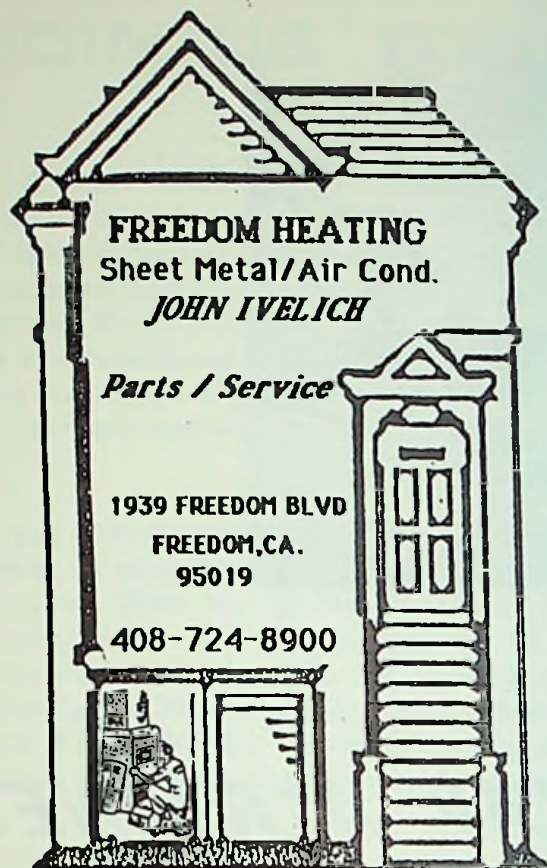
PROBUS, emperor from 276 to 282, was also born in Sirmium. It was necessary to preserve the Empire, reunited under Aurelian, from barbarian incursions and also to ensure stable and continuous economic recovery. Probus was successful on both counts. Vine-growing was renewed in the Illyrian regions in his reign. Denomination: Antoninianus, minted in Serdica (Sofia).

DIOCLETIAN, emperor from 284 to 305, born in Dalmatia. Responsible for a number of important reforms, in 293 he established a tetrarchy as a new form of imperial administration. He instituted a new administrative division of the Empire and a monetary reform in 296. One of few emperors to die of natural causes, Diocletian abdicated in 305 and withdrew to his native land (Diocletian's famous palace in Split). The Emperor's portrait appeared on a newly introduced coin, the follis, minted at Sisak.

The coins shown on the stamps belong to the numismatic collection of the Belgrade City Museum.

The motifs were selected by Nikola Crnobrnja, museum custodian, and the design is by the Belgrade artist Dušan Lukić.

The stamps were printed in the VEB Wertpapierdruckerei in Leipzig in multicoloured heliogravure.



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HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY



ADRIATIC WORLDWIDE TRAVEL

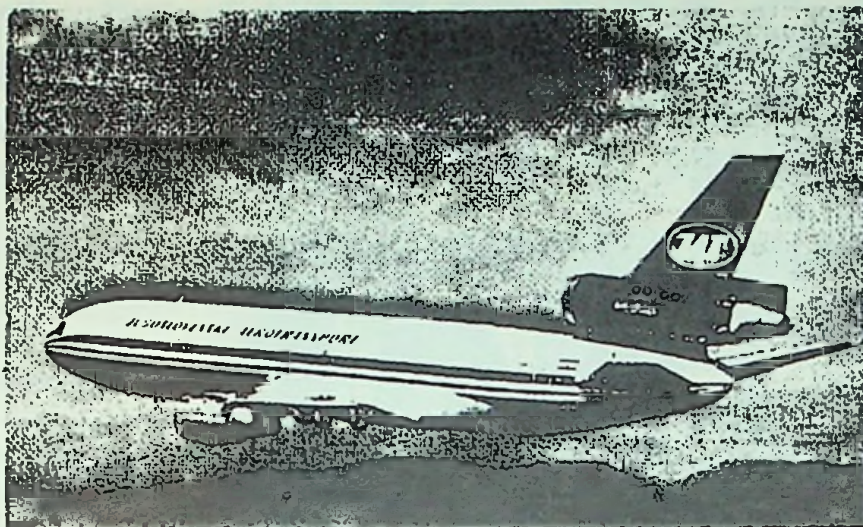
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JOIN US TODAY

YACO was established in 1979 as a non-profit club without political or religious ties for the sole purpose of bringing together Yugoslavs and other interested persons to make known and to preserve our Slavic heritage. We are proud that among our membership we have families and individuals whose roots represent each region of present-day Yugoslavia, as well as non-slavic members who support the club's goals.

A year-around series of programs and events has proven an enjoyable way for YACO to provide its focus on Slavic heritage. Such activities include picnics, lectures and slide presentations on Yugoslavia and its historic culture, plus potluck and sit-down dinners. We also publish a monthly newsletter, THE KALIFORNSKI, full of interesting articles, recipes, and news of our area's Yugoslav community.

Our meetings (the first Sunday of each month) may include a potluck, special dinner, films, dancing, and raffles, plus we hold an annual July barbeque.

Won't you accept our invitation to join us? We're sure you'll soon find YACO to be one of your favorite clubs.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership \$12
Family membership \$18

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Birth date: _____
Husband: _____
Wife: _____
Address: _____
Phone number: _____
Interests: _____

Yugoslav Background: _____

Children under 18 included in Family Membership: _____

ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn
c/o Rapid Offset Printing
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Watsonville, CA 95076
(408) 724-2900

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry or stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.

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No Paper?

If someone you know is not receiving the KALIFORNSKI, please let us know. We publish this for you, the membership, and would like each of you to have the opportunity to keep in touch with YACO. Contact us at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 - (408) 724-2900.

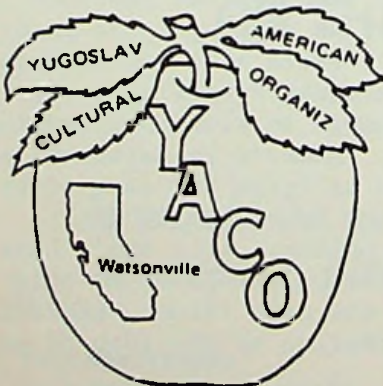
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YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226

Watsonville, CA. 95077

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



DATED MATERIAL — Please Rush.

CALENDAR

*Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place
at 7:00 p.m. at
the V.F.W. Hall, 1960 Freedom Blvd., Freedom.*

DON'T MISS THIS!

Sunday, JULY 2nd

**YACO's
10th ANNUAL
BARBECUE!**

Corralitos Padres Park
11 a.m. - ?

*Bring family & friends
— pay at the door.*

August 6 Program to be announced
September 3 Program to be announced
October 1 Audo/Visual (Slides or movie)
November 5 ELECTIONS & Desserts
December 3 YACO CHRISTMAS PARTY
5 p.m. — ?



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KALIFORNSKI